

Victim Services Conference Webinars Session Spotlight

VCAP: A Deep Dive into Eligibility From application to payment



Paige J. Schmittinger

Paige Schmittinger is the Executive Director of the Victims' Compensation Assistance Program at the Delaware Department of Justice. She is responsible for supervising the claims review process and overseeing the payment of compensation to victims of crime. Paige began her career at the Department of Justice in 2011 as a Deputy Attorney General in the Domestic Violence Unit. She has also been assigned to the Felony Trial Unit, the Affirmative Litigation Unit, and the Health Law Unit. Paige is a lifelong Delawarean and holds a B.A. in both Psychology and Sociology from the University of Delaware and a J.D. from Widener University Delaware School of Law.

Eligibility Requirements.

VCAP Applicants must:

- ✓ Be a listed victim of a covered in a police report or a petitioner in a final PFA Order
- ✓ Report the crime to law enforcement within 72 hours
- ✓ File a VCAP application within 1 year of the crime
- ✓ Not be participating in any illegal activity at the time of the crime
- ✓ Not be in collusion with the perpetrator
- ✓ Not be engaged in any drug-related activity
- ✓ Be fully cooperative with law enforcement and prosecution

Qualifying Crimes.

Must contain the characteristics of:

Arson Firearms crimes Sex crimes

Assault Homicide Stalking

Burglary Human trafficking Terrorism

Domestic Violence Kidnapping Vehicular Assault

DUI Riot

Explosives crimes Robbery

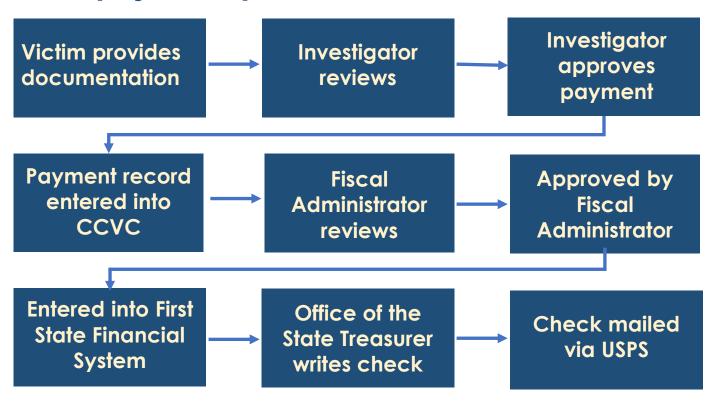


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Three possible outcomes:

- 1. Approval: letter sent outlining awarded benefits
- 2. Closure: claim is eligible to be reopened if circumstances change
- 3. Denial: follows formal appeal process

Claim payment procedure



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